

NEW NATIONAL ERA.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS, Editor.

Communications for the Editorial Department should be addressed, Editor New National Era, Lock Box 31. Business letters and communications from subscribers and advertisers should be addressed, Publishers New National Era, Lock Box 31. This paper is not responsible for the views expressed by Correspondents.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1870.

Mr. Thomas Downing at the Boston, Mass. Post Office is Agent for the New National Era. Mr. Lewis W. Stevenson is a duly authorized General Agent for the New National Era in the State of Texas.

The Change in our Name.

It will be seen that we have this week changed the name of this paper from New Era to NEW NATIONAL ERA. This change is made mainly, because there are so many newspapers in the country bearing the same name. The addition to our title is, however, highly appropriate, and the new name more clearly describes the true character of our journal. The field of our labors is as wide as the limits of the nation; it is our aim to speak to and for the people of the whole land rather than of any particular locality, and to make the NEW NATIONAL ERA a national journal in its truest and broadest sense.

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We call upon our friends everywhere to interest themselves in procuring and forwarding subscriptions to the NEW NATIONAL ERA. A little effort of individuals in the localities where they reside can be made to aid us materially. Now is the time to make the effort, as the fall campaigns are approaching.

We also want to be furnished with the names of responsible parties to act as agents in any of the States or Territories.

Address to Correspondents.

Both to you and to our readers we would secure the largest advantage. This can only be accomplished by accuracy of detail and brevity of statement—a determination of all that each shall be heard. The country is large, the paper is small; to accommodate all, to hear from all, so that the NEW NATIONAL ERA may be truly national, each correspondent should say what he has to say in the fewest words possible. As a general rule, it were better to omit all elaborate description of geographical, topographical, and climatic conditions of the locality from which you write. These can be learned from other sources. Omit "that you have the honor to be a subscriber to your valuable, ably-conducted, influential, widely-circulated, celebrated, powerful journal," or other like high-sounding phrase. Nothing is so convincing as facts. Truth needs no exaggeration. Give us your own proper name and the name of the post office, county, and State. Write plainly. Those who send us subscribers intended for publication must be directed to FREDERICK DOUGLASS, Editor of the "NEW NATIONAL ERA," Washington, D. C.

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The Union Congressional Republican Executive Committee.

The organization of the Union Congressional Republican Executive Committee is as follows. Republican papers throughout the country will aid the good cause by copying the list of the officers of the committee:

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ALL communications should be addressed to HON. JAS. H. PLATT, Jr., M. C., Washington, D. C.

SEND ON YOUR MONEY.—We receive a great many letters, saying that several subscribers have been obtained, and requesting us to forward the papers, and they will remit as soon as a certain number of subscribers are procured. We keep no book of account with subscribers and cannot send any paper until the money is received. Our friends should send the names with the money, just as fast as they are obtained, to prevent dissatisfaction on the part of the subscribers.

A Public Reception.

It is arranged to give Hon. EBENEZER D. BASSETT, United States Minister, a grand reception in Cooper Institute, New York, on the 20th September. We have no doubt the occasion will be made in a respects worthy of the man, of his position and of the prominent gentleman who has the matter in charge.

May the Republican Party rely upon the Undivided Colored Vote?

The Northern Democracy was never more the natural and unfeeling ally of slavery, than colored voters are of the Republican party, and yet, whether it shall or shall not receive the undivided vote of colored citizens, in some measure depends upon the wisdom and activity of its leaders. The question is one of immense importance. The overthrow of the Republican party—or, what would probably amount to the same thing, the defeat of its candidates for Congress,—would be the most deplorable event for our people that could happen to them.

There can be no doubt or question of one thing, and that is, the vigilant, sagacious and active leaders of the Democratic party, notwithstanding their affected contempt for negro voters in some quarters, and their black and bloody record toward the colored people of the country, slave and free, now have their hope of getting possession of the National Government upon the assumption that the Democratic party will share with the Republican party the colored vote.

It is no part of wisdom to underestimate the power of an adversary even in contests of small importance; but where the fate of liberty, justice and good government depends, such a mistake is almost a crime. France to-day pays the heavy penalty of this unwisdom, and the Republican party, may, when it is too late, live to learn that it has been over-confident and careless.

The leaders of the Democratic party in the Southern States hold a decided advantage in several important particulars over those of the Republican party. They are the former rich men of the South, and colored men respect riches. They own the land and mean to own it as long as they can, for they know that land is a power. They are the ancient ruling class, and retain much of their former dignity. They are gentlemen in the Southern acceptance of that word, and it is a part of the negro's character to hold gentlemen in a unreserved respect. None of what are contemptuously called the "poor white trash" can gain the confidence of the colored man as against the true Southern gentlemen, for the latter is considered a man of honor, and it is believed he will do precisely as he says. Then, too, the negro and these master-spirits of the South, are acquainted with each other. They are related to each other not only as former master and slave, but they are now related to each other as employers and employees. They understand each other. The negro mother has often furnished the milk that supported the infant life of your Democratic aristocrat. Impressions made by slavery, do not die out in an age. An instant may snap the chain, but an age may not efface the mark it leaves on the soul. The same old haughtiness brings back the same old servility, and the same old assertion of power, will in some degree bring back the same submission. It is not unreasonable to expect that these advantages will be readily perceived and acted upon in the mighty struggle for political power which will pervade the country up to the next Presidential election.

Hungry for power, eager to get possession of the Government which they could not destroy either by treachery, sword, or fire, they will bring into vigorous exercise all the skill, craft and power of which they are masters. The negro is landless; he will be offered the use of land. The negro has a large family and is poor; he will be offered money. The negro is an object of aversion and contempt in the eyes of the "poor white trash"; he will be treated with well-affected respect by the former rulers and master-spirits of the South. The negro lives in personal peril; these Democratic leaders will promise him protection and safety. The negro, like other men, is ambitious, and often thinks himself qualified for offices to the duties of which he is unequal; he will be promised office. Ignorance is easily flattered, and ignorance will be flattered. Ignorance easily grows suspicious, and our suspicious will be directed against our friends. Already they are asking the colored men of the South, with well-affected compassion, What have the Republican party done for you? What evidence do they give that they are more friendly to you than we are? They have given you the ballot—but why? Simply to get themselves continued in power. Why do they not elect colored men to office in some measure proportionate to their numbers? They affect to be your friends—why don't they invite you to their houses?

Now, unfair and unjust as all this is, it is still unsafe to deny its possible effect. The virtue of our people may be great, but we are not beyond the reach of temptation. We are firmly united to the Republican party, but we are not beyond the power of suspicion and disaffection. Men are men, and colored men are no more than men. Though every man may not have his price, some men have. If the colored man is grateful for favors that are past, he is equally grateful for favors to come. If WEBSTER could fall and SEWARD disavow the higher law for the sake of office, colored men ought not to be expected to manifest a stronger virtue. No people were ever in a condition better calculated to lead them to accept shams for substance.

Besides, the means of promoting disaffection towards the Republican party are not wanting. No large political party can exist—certainly none can be successful—without having within it a considerable number of knaves and fools. Though the Republican party is in the main sound-headed and sound-hearted, it has men in it who do many foolish and knavish things. Adroit, wary, unscrupulous men know how to fasten upon a party the sins of its individual members, and none know this art better than the Democratic leaders.

We warn our Republican friends not to be over-confident. The colored Democratic organization formed (very appropriately) in Zion church, Baltimore, a few nights ago, will not stand alone. Where that is more.

Almost every Republican you meet will tell you that the vote of the colored men will be solid with the Republicans. They apprehend no danger and adopt no precautions. The negro, they say, is grateful; he has a good memory; he knows his friends, and equally well knows his enemies, and that he may be perfectly relied upon at the ballot box to make a wise discrimination.

We are not disposed to decline any honest and properly earned compliment to our race, and we sincerely wish this compliment to the intelligence, wisdom and integrity of the colored people were more fully deserved. To a vast number of them it is only a moderate and well-merited compliment. The mass of colored voters will, we have no doubt, in the Fall elections, and in all elections in which they may take part, for years to come, be found on the side of the Republican party—the party of justice, freedom, and progress. But this is not enough. We want the whole colored vote. It is no business elsewhere than in the Republican party, and it will be in large measure due to the over-confidence of Republicans, and to their consequent failure to use the proper means, if any considerable part of the colored vote finds its way to the Democratic side.

We are not apologizing for any colored man who shall vote the Democratic ticket. While we respect the right of men to vote with what

party, and for what candidates, they think best; and while we should deem it a crime against the Government to resort to physical force to prevent or punish such voting, we can only conceive of a colored vote for Democratic candidates as the act of one who, while wearing the outward semblance of a man, carries in his breast the heart of a spaniel, a cur—or who breaks the foot that kicks him and the hand who holds him chains him; or as of a poor fool, who does not know enough to go under shelter when it rains, or that knowing it, is too lazy and cowardly to do so.

Let My Children Do as I Have Done.

There are many hurtful errors abroad in the minds of the colored people of this country. Some of these have been generated and kept alive by our long years of slavery. Among such errors there are few which require a more complete exposure than the maxim quoted at the head of this article. With all its apparent wisdom and fairness, it is not easy to find a mischievous more false, unfeeling, or practically unobtainable. As usually employed it strikes at the root of all progress, extinguishes all hope for the race, makes our ignorance, our destitution and degradation perpetual—entails upon our children the condition of their parents.

The maxim would be of some value if used by the right men, and used with proper qualifications. But these qualifications are seldom present. The man who has done well himself is one who ardently wishes his children to do better. He wishes moreover to help them to do better than he, with his limited opportunities, was able to do. "Let my children do as I have done" is the sentiment of those who lag and remain at the lowest round of the ladder of life, not of those who have ascended to its honorable heights. The man who objected to doing anything for posterity on the ground that posterity had done nothing for him, is in the same error.

What would have been the moral, intellectual, and physical condition of mankind but for the labors and sacrifices and sufferings of the generations which have preceded us in the silent march of time? Ungrateful accuser of the past! Who but the dead planted the noble trees, the wholesome fruit of which we are to-day the fortunate partakers? Who laid the foundations and built the walls of the houses that shelter and protect us from the elements? Who graded in sweat and toil the smooth roads by which we travel, opened to us the crystal fountains at which we drink and slake our thirst? Who framed the great laws of right and justice by which we are protected in person and property? Who suffered martyrdoms and all manner of torture that they might wrest from iron hearted power and vengeful bigotry the precious and priceless freedom of thought we now enjoy? These are self-answering questions. They tell us of good men working not only for their own times and their own generations, but for all times and all generations. They tell us that we to-day stand upon the shoulders of the men of the past; and if to-day we stand higher than they, and have a broader and clearer range of vision, it is because they lived and wrought before us. They tell us also, in eloquence silent as the stars, but impressive as the thunder, that what they have done for us we must do for our children. Man is nothing without a future. The world is truly a howling wilderness to him who sees for his children only the actual condition of himself. A better day coming, is the natural stay and support of man under the burdens of the day already come.

In the dark and terrible days of slavery our people had no future. A child born into the world brought no joy. Only another victim for the auction block—only another candidate for the lash and chain. All is changed in the New Era now dawning upon us. In the birth of a baby now is the possible birth of a blessing. Our parents may now look into the smiling faces of their children not with sadness and fears, but with gladness and hope, and see in their future improvement the elevation and happiness of a people so long the miserable outcasts of the world.

"Let my children do as I have done." Never! You have done without education, without comfort, without refinement, without knowledge, without leisure, without a thousand things needed to human happiness. This is no reason that your children should do without any of them, or that anybody else should. You have lived in a hut; that is no reason why your child should not live in a mansion. You have owned no land, and have touched the very depths of helpless poverty; that is no reason for your children's doing the same and reaching the same condition. Our motto should rather be, let my children do incomparably better than I have done; and what we can do as parents to help them onward and upward shall be done.

Hon. E. D. Bassett.

This distinguished gentleman, who, since the beginning of General Grant's administration, has been silently pursuing the duties of his high office as minister to Hayti, is now at his home in this country, on leave. A few weeks of our bracing air will doubtless be of service to Mr. BASSETT, though, judging from his appearance, we must say that tropical airs and diplomatic labors have dealt tenderly with him. He seems broader and stronger in body and correspondingly enlarged in spirit and manner. He has been breathing the air of a country where colored people are entirely free and where honest labor is a people who have won liberty by their own heroic valor, and have preserved it by their patriotism and their wisdom. The moral atmosphere of such a country is ever friendly to the growth of manly dignity, and we are not surprised to see its influence upon our respected minister. One of the evils entailed upon colored men by slavery is a certain cowardly and servile bearing in the presence of white men. A colored man, no matter how learned and able, does not entirely divest himself from this feeling; but the sooner we outgrow it the better. To err the other way, however, is still more reprehensible. There is a manly bearing, as free from insolence and vanity on the one hand as from fawning and servility on the other—the outgrowth of conscious freedom and power—which is proper to all men, and especially to those representing a great nation like ours to the outside world.

Mr. BASSETT is the first colored man appointed by the American Government to any foreign mission—a marked and striking manifestation of the radical change of American sentiment and policy wrought out by the successful suppression of a slaveholding rebellion. He represents two nations in one and a new dispensation beside. As a people, we feel in his career the deepest interest. His success, or his success, and his failure would deeply affect us. It is on this account that we avail ourselves of his presence in this country to say a friendly word of him.

We deal in no empty compliment, but render honor only where honor is due, when we say, that the colored people of this country have no reason to be ashamed of Mr. BASSETT, and many reasons to be proud of him. He has undoubtedly discharged the duties of his office in

a manner which reflects credit upon himself, his color and his country. He took the office of Minister to Hayti when that country was the scene of wild commotion. Society there was rent asunder into hostile armies, and the blood of the nation was oozing everywhere from ghastly wounds. Diplomatic relations with such a country, at such a time, had few attractions. There are few places affording a better chance of making mistakes and getting into troubles of all kinds. A still tongue, an even temper, a well-balanced judgment are needed in such place. Yet even these will fail unless coupled with vigilance and industry. So far as an outsider can judge, and we may say, so far as we are informed, Mr. BASSETT has well answered all the requirements of the situation. His career as a foreign Minister has been a decided success. He has vindicated the wisdom of General Grant, in making the appointment and the wisdom of the Senate in confirming it. We cordially greet him in the columns of the NEW NATIONAL ERA and wish him, in the name of our people, a success in his future diplomatic career, equal to that of his past.

A Sign of Peace.

The mighty flood of glittering steel which threatens Paris has halted. Diplomacy, for a while at least, is to give pause to the horrid work of blood, and the heart of the world is for the moment relieved a terrible pressure. American feeling toward the parties involved in this dreadful contest, has visibly changed, and very naturally. While the war was a war of Kings, American sympathy, outside of the Democratic party, was with Prussia and against Napoleon, but now that Napoleon is conquered and is a prisoner, and France is a Republic, our sympathy is for France more than for Germany. The words of WILLIAM, when he entered the contest, that he fought against NAPOLEON, not France, won the admiration of all good men, who saw how the war was forced upon him by his Imperial foe, but all this feeling will vanish if, like the tiger, having tasted blood, he goes on crushing human bodies, as if delighting in carnage.

We have high hopes that this sudden pause in the storm of war, this halt of a victorious army, almost within striking distance of the grand object of its march, a halt evidently not caused by any probable danger of defeat, will lead to peace. Prussia drew her sword against a turbulent Empire, which was forever plotting against the peace of Europe and the world, the better to ensure its own safety, but not only the Emperor, but the Empire, is gone. It has been swept away by a storm of its raising, and consumed by a fire of its own kindling. Prussia has now really no enemy before her, and the opportunity is now given her to set an example of wisdom, justice and magnanimity which shall make her name illustrious through all future generations of men.

While however immediate peace is obviously desirable, and should be reached at almost any sacrifice or purchased at almost any price, Prussia has a right to compensation for the tremendous loss of blood and treasure to which she has been so wantonly subjected. A nation should be made to pay the penalty for wantonly disturbing the peace of the world.

Upon this point, there is no dissenting voice in this country, except a few of that class of politicians who secretly encouraged the late rebellion in the interest of slavery. France should pay the whole bill and pay it gladly. A promise on her part to do so, would be a guarantee of the Republic. While she refuses to do so she invites war, conquest, spoliation, and makes the Republic in a certain sense a continuation of the Empire.

The American people justly feel proud of the prompt and energetic words of President GRANT in the interest of peace and the new Republic. KING WILLIAM, though a King, may well give ear to the American Republic in this instance. Extreme contempt and indifference to the march of liberal opinions have often proved the element of triumph to such opinions. A tremendous volume of thought and feeling in Germany, already sets in favor of a Republic, and its hour to assert itself would not be retarded by any irrational and cruel proceeding of the King towards France or any other Republic.

Across the Potomac.

We mention the fact, less for its importance than for its novelty, we are now writing in the borders of Virginia. To our boys in blue and to ten thousand others, the soil of Virginia has lost its novelty and, perhaps, its sacredness. We are not sure that we feel quite so much impressed by it as we should have been a dozen years ago. Yet it is but truth to say, that our feelings are a good deal excited by the thought that we are really standing upon the "Old Virginia shore." As we look up to her blue September sky and breathe the fresh air from her distant mountains, we may easily enough see why the great orator of New England, twenty years ago, gilded his eloquence by the rays of her "October Sun." Old Virginia has her history, and no American can be indifferent to the associations that cluster about her name. That we are here, pen in hand, with no sense of insecurity, seems more like a dream than reality, when it is remembered that only a decade has past since this same State sent a requisition North for us, with a view to our being brought to the gallows with glorious old JOHN BROWN. At that time we had no thought of ever setting foot upon the soil of Old Virginia. Though upon any fair trial it would have been impossible to have convicted us of the offense then alleged against us, we knew too much of the temper and spirit of those dark times to put ourselves within reach of Old Virginia courts.

But there is some illusion about the impression made upon us by this State. We are not now in that same old Virginia of JOHN BROWN's memory. The land is the same, its fields and plains, its hills and valleys, its beautiful rivers and crystal streams, are all the same; but the State, as it is, "to the mocker hath gone," and is a thing of the past. From the lofty summits of her mountains, bathed in soft blue, we may now look down upon a new Virginia, with new people, new spirit, new object, and new purpose—a new Virginia which will, we think, as far surpass the old dominion as mind surpasses muscle, or as light darkness.

But here, in Vienna, near Falls Church and Fairfax Court House, we are only within the border of Virginia—and hence, should, perhaps, be silent about the State till we have traveled more and are better informed. We are here but for a day, but this day has been full of observation and full of interest. Our friends, Mr. and Mrs. SAULSBURY, introduced us to several colored families, living on their land, as well as several white families of intelligence and respectability from the North. The latter having mostly come here since the war, in the belief that these old worn out lands in Fairfax county, can and shall be brought back to something of their primitive fertility. There are many evidences too that they will succeed. Two enterprising and industrious people seem very well pleased with their land and with their prospects. As a fruit-growing region this can hardly be surpassed. Every year fruit is becoming more and more important as a crop, and these enterprising Northerners may well enough plant these orchards of choice fruits. They

readily grow and flourish here and the demand for them is certain to be ever increasing.

As might have been expected the colored people, though free, and rejecting in their freedom, and would not upon any account go back to their old condition of slavery, desisting the flesh-pots of our modern Egypt, are yet in great destitution. They neither have land nor money. They live in narrow and imperfectly built shanties and their children are poorly clad and mostly running wild. An able bodied man, with a family of wife and four children, gets twelve dollars per month in summer and ten dollars in winter. Out of this he must pay house rent of three dollars per month and feed and cloth his wife and children. How such people live is a mystery. Yet they do live and are for the most exceedingly cheerful. I find no school for colored children at Vienna, although there are sixty colored children in the neighborhood who are of suitable age for attending school.

Such destitution should not be permitted anywhere in this favored land—certainly not almost within sight of the National Capital, and we hope to hear speedily that a regular school is kept in Vienna for these colored children whose parents have by slavery been deprived of the power to make provision for them. Among the few parents that we met we found no lack of desire for education, and we are persuaded that a large and flourishing school might easily be established here.

This Sunday evening we addressed a crowded audience, convened at the instance of Captain SAULSBURY, composed of both colored and white, upon their new relations and duties, and was listened to with attention and we trust, with profit.

It is evidently a new thing here to see a colored man received and treated as a gentleman in a respectable white family, as we were at the home of our respected friend SAULSBURY. The fact makes an impression on the blacks about as marked as upon the whites. They plainly do not know what to do with a spectacle so novel. If our friend Captain SAULSBURY escapes censure for this day's work, the change in Old Virginia is more radical and complete than we think at this probable.

Should he, however, find himself persecuted by his Christian neighbors for his belief in the brotherhood of men, we need not counsel him to stand firm, for we know he will do that, and that other brave and generous men like himself in that community will stand firm with him. The colored people of Vienna are fortunate, we think, in having an adviser so intelligent and a friend so true as Captain SAULSBURY.

The Homestead and Railroad Land Policy.

The capital in trade of the rebel democracy is all bogus, made up of fictions or false entries and charges. If they were compelled to prove the correctness of their books they would be pronounced fraudulent bankrupts of the most knavish kind by all the courts. Most men know them to be so, and the people have annually rendered the verdict of fraudulent bankruptcy against them for ten years. One which goes far to make up the political capital of the rotten firm of "Conservative, Democrat, Rebel & Co." is their charge against the present pre-emption and railroad land grant policy of the country. One would suppose not only that the Republicans had invented this policy for the purpose of robbing the nation, but that they had actually either stole all the land themselves or granted them to gigantic, grasping, unprincipled land monopolies. That portion of this policy which granted a homestead from these lands to every man who will accept and occupy one hundred and sixty acres is subject to equal abuse with the policy of granting aid to railroads running through them. But these grants are, if possible, a little less bitterly assailed. And yet we are enabled to state that this doctrine originated with the Democratic party, and that STEPHEN A. DOUGLASS was its author.

The Illinois Central Railroad obtained the first grant subsidy. The Democratic National Convention of 1860, which nominated STEPHEN A. DOUGLASS for President, placed a plank in the Democratic platform especially pledging the DOUGLASS wing of the Democratic party to favor a gigantic land grant subsidy to the Pacific Railway. Its fourth resolution declares:

"That one of the necessities of the age, in a military, commercial, and postal point of view, is a speedy communication between the Atlantic and Pacific States; and the Democratic party pledge such constitutional Government aid as will insure the construction of a railroad to the Pacific coast at the earliest practicable period."

This platform was supported by the majority of the Democrats of Michigan and the entire North. But the Breckinridge Democrats were no better. Their national platform, in its last plank, contained the same pledge to "use every means in their power to secure the passage of some bill to the extent of the constitutional authority of Congress for the construction of a Pacific Railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean at the earliest practicable moment."

While, therefore, it is clearly proved by the public record that the railroad land subsidy policy was a Democratic invention, it is equally clearly proved that the Republicans invented the theory and policy that the public lands belong to the people, and should be given only to actual settlers. The Homestead Law, devoting all the public lands to the use and benefit of actual settlers, was a Republican measure, passed by a Republican Congress, over the veto of James Buchanan, Democratic President. This veto is dated June 22, 1860. In this veto, the Democratic President, representing the Democratic party, declares his objections, at great length, to reserving the public lands for actual settlers. He had previously vetoed the bill granting lands for Agricultural Colleges. He held that giving the lands to actual settlers is unconstitutional; that they ought to be sold, as the Democrats had formerly done, to speculators, and whoever would buy. He said: "It is not, in my opinion, expedient to proclaim to all the nations of the earth that whoever shall arrive in this country from a foreign shore, and declare his intention to become a citizen, shall receive a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, at a cost of twenty-five or twenty cents per acre, if he will only reside on it and cultivate it." This was the Democratic doctrine then; and there is no proof to be found anywhere that it has ever changed.

Behind the Times.

On the 7th instant, a week after the capitulation of McMahons army of 120,000, the Montgomery (Ala.) Mail, a rebel Democratic, and therefore a NAPOLEONIC organ, made the following sage prediction:

"The Prussian army is in great peril. McMahons and Bazaine are doubtless united by this time. An advance of their united forces must break through the gap between the King and the Crown Prince."

The editor of the Mail is evidently neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, or else its hatred for Germans is stronger than its regard for truth.

Hon. THOS. BOWIE, one of the truest men in Congress, has been renominated by acclamation from the 2d district of Arkansas.

Hon. George W. McCrary, of Iowa.

Among the many leading Republicans which the young State of Iowa has produced, there are none who give greater promise of usefulness to their country, judging from the rapid advancement which he has made in securing the confidence and respect not only of his immediate constituents, but of thousands of people of distant States, than the gentleman whose name heads this brief article. As one of the rising men of the country, we presume a brief sketch of his life and services to the Republican party will not prove uninteresting to the readers of the NEW NATIONAL ERA.

Mr. McCrary is one of the youngest members of the House, having been born in Evansville, Indiana, August 29, 1825. There are six Representatives in Congress from Iowa and the entire delegation is Republican. Out of these six members but three have been renominated for the next Congress, and among these three is Mr. McCrary. The others will be succeeded by two men, who have already been placed in nomination. The fact that he has been so unanimously re-elected by his constituents, who have thus said, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," is a compliment which, while it was no doubt well deserved, is highly prized by him.

Mr. McCrary is a self-made man. During his early childhood his parents emigrated to the then distant Territory of Iowa, where schools were almost unknown. His parents were poor and unable to send him to distant schools, so that his education was obtained, as the education of most of our early western pioneers, at odd hours during the day, and by fire-light during the long winter nights. As a youth he manifested a laudable ambition to excel, and hence closely applied himself to his studies when he could withdraw himself from other duties.

In 1854 he entered the law office of Judge MILLER, then practicing his profession in Keokuk, but now a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. At this time his personal appearance was not of the most gaily or prepossessing style, and hence other young men who had entered the profession were at first inclined to make sport of him, and to scout the idea of his ever becoming a lawyer of any eminence. But there was a calm, quiet dignity about him, and a big and generous heart at the bottom of it all, which soon drew around him and made warm and devoted friends of those who were at first inclined to shun and make sport of him. At the expiration of two years it was found that he had greatly distanced in his studies all those who had entered the lists with him, and in 1856 he graduated and at once stepped into a good practice.

Early in life Mr. McCrary took a deep interest in the political affairs of the country, though he did not come prominently before the people of his State until 1856, during the Fremont campaign. Young and impulsive, with a heart which bled for the poor down-trodden people of the South, and foreseeing in the organization of the Republican party a power which at no distant day must strike the fetters and manacles from the limbs of every slave in the land, he entered the campaign in behalf of Fremont and Dayton with great ardor and enthusiasm.

In the year following (1857,) when in the twenty-second year of his age, he was honored by the Republicans of his county with the nomination for representative in the Legislature, to which position he was elected by a handsome majority. Again, in 1861, he was elected to the State Senate for a term of four years by an increased majority, thus showing a rapidly growing confidence in his ability and integrity on the part of the people of his section of the State. In the Legislature, both as a member of the House and Senate, he at once took a leading position, and was the author and advocate of many popular measures.

While taking a deep and active interest in the political affairs of his State and the nation, he did not neglect his profession. At the time of his nomination to Congress, two years ago, he enjoyed a large and lucrative practice, which yielded him a much larger income than does his present salary. Of course, since his election to Congress his time has been engrossed by the responsible duties which devolve upon him as a representative of the people, and he has been compelled to give up a large portion of his practice.

Mr. McCrary was elected as a member of the Forty-first Congress by a vote of 17,718 against 12,705 cast for his competitor. His ability as a lawyer and legislator had preceded him to Washington, and on the announcement of the committees of the House it was found that Speaker BLAINE had placed him on three of the most important ones of that body, viz: On the revision of the Laws of the United States, on Contested Elections and Naval Affairs. He showed himself a skilled and efficient worker in these committee rooms, readily adapting himself to the routine business which they require, and at once comprehending the important measures which came before them for report or adjustment. He took a decided stand in opposition to the Pacific Railroad and other land grants, contending that the public lands should be reserved for soldiers and actual settlers. He was very earnest in his advocacy of all measures relating to pensions and bounties—indeed of all measures which had in view the conferring of benefits and honors on the brave defenders of the Union in the late slaveholder's rebellion. The interests of the soldier were never considered to safer or abler hands.

In personal appearance Mr. McCrary is one of the finest looking men in the House. He is of the medium height but of powerful frame, and weighs about one hundred and seventy pounds. He has an active, nervous temperament, and an organization capable of any amount of endurance. As a speaker he possesses a fine voice, and as a debater he has but few if any superiors in the House. He has already attained a high and commanding position among his co-laborers on the Republican side of the House. His future is certainly a bright one, and we commend the Republicans of the 1st Congressional District of Iowa, for the wisdom they have shown in demanding his services for another term.

Interesting Statement.

Mr. JOHN Q. HOPKINS, a colored man, (not as much colored as we could wish,) is a member of the Virginia Legislature from Princess Anne county. His grandparents and great grandparents were born in that county, and have lived there through all the years of slavery; but years ago his father, unable to submit to the exactions and persecutions of that dark reign, emigrated to the State of New York, and remained there till the war and the abolition of slavery. Like many others, since the Southern gates have been unlocked by the bayonet, Mr. HOPKINS returned from his Northern exile and fixed his residence in the land of his birth and ancestry. To-day he has the satisfaction of seeing his son representing in the Legislature of the State the very district from which years ago he (the elder HOPKINS) was driven from into exile.

It is stated that a "Thaddeus Stevens" of chair of natural science is to be crowned in the Lincoln University of Missouri.

Republican Congressional Committee.</